THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE L.NARASIMHA REDDY

W.P.No.27564 of 2005

Date:27.12.2005

K.Satyanarayanamurthy.

--------PETITIONER

The Regional Transport Officer.

---------RESPONDENTS

ORDER:

The petitioner is operating his vehicle bearing No.AP.35/T.1611 on a town service with Permit No.3/VZM/81 issued by the respondent herein. He submitted an application, dated 29.10.2005, before the respondent seeking permission to release the vehicle, on the ground that it needs to be replaced by another. Through his memo, dated 18.11.2005, the respondent rejected the request and took the view that the vehicle can be released, only when it is replaced by another and not otherwise. The petitioner challenges the same.

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Government Pleader for Transport.

The very purpose of granting Permit, enabling the owner of the vehicle to operate it on a route, is to ensure that the travelling public are provided with the transport facility. Once a vehicle is granted such permission, it cannot be permitted to be withdrawn. The Motor Vehicles Act and Rules made thereunder provide for replacement of vehicle, wherever the permit-holder wants. There is no provision, which enables the permit holder to release the vehicle without replacing it. Such a course would result in defeating the very purpose of

granting the permit. If the vehicle owned by the petitioner at present needs major repairs and he is not able to replace it with another, he can certainly seek release of the vehicle, paving the way for the respondent to grant permit in favour of the owner of another vehicle.

Hence, the writ petition is disposed of, directing that in case the petitioner insists that his vehicle be released for major repairs and he is not able to replace it with another vehicle, the respondent shall accede to such request and he may, in turn, grant temporary permit on the same route in favour of the owner of another vehicle, in accordance with law. The permit, which remains with the petitioner shall be liable to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules made thereunder. There shall be no order as to costs.

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27.12.2005

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